

1 I claim:

2 1. A computer system having a logic unit with a central processor; an operating  
3 system program; at least one application program; a keyboard attached to a port on the logic unit  
4 wherein the keyboard transmits scan codes to the logic unit, at least one of which scan codes is not  
5 recognized by the operating system for processing and transmittal to the application program; a  
6 keyboard driver program that intercepts incoming scan codes from the keyboard and transmits them  
7 to a filter program which converts any unrecognized scan codes to unique combinations of scan  
8 codes recognized by the operating system, adds internal key codes associated with each recognized  
9 and unrecognized scan code, and transmits scan codes and internal key codes to the operating  
10 system; and a keyboard mapping program which associates each internal key codes with an  
11 originating keystrokes for use by the application program.

12 2. The system of claim 1 further including a network connection to a server and wherein the  
13 application program and the keyboard mapping program are on the server.

14 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the keyboard is a 122-key keyboard adapted for use with a  
15 mainframe or midrange computer terminal.

16 4. The system of claim 3 wherein the logic unit operating system is a Windows operating system  
17 and the internal key codes are virtual key codes.

18 5. The system of claim 3 wherein the application program is a terminal emulation program.

19 6. The system of claim 4 wherein the application program is a terminal emulation program.

20 7. The system of claim 1 wherein the keyboard driver program and the filter program are  
21 combined into a single program that intercepts incoming scan codes from the keyboard,  
22

1 converts any unrecognized scan codes to unique combinations of scan codes recognized by the  
operating system, adds internal key codes associated with each recognized and unrecognized  
scan code, and transmits scan codes and internal key codes to the operating system.

5 8. The system of claim 7 further including a network connection to a server and wherein the  
application program and keyboard mapping program are on the server.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the keyboard is a 122-key keyboard adapted for use with a  
10 mainframe or midrange computer terminal.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein the logic unit operating system is a Windows operating system  
and the internal key codes are virtual key codes.

11. The system of claim 9 wherein the application program is a terminal emulation program.

12. The system of claim 10 wherein the application program is a terminal emulation program.

13. A method of using a keyboard in connection with a computer system having an operating  
system that does not recognize at least one scan code generated by the keyboard, comprising the  
steps of adding a keyboard driver and filter program that intercepts incoming scan codes before  
they are processed by the operating system, attaches internal key codes to scan codes recognized  
by the operating system, converts each unrecognized scan code to a unique combination of  
recognized scan codes and attaches internal key codes corresponding to said unique  
combination; transmitting the recognized scan codes and associated internal key codes and the  
unique combinations of keyboard scan codes and associated combinations of internal key codes  
to the operating system for regular processing; and adding a keyboard mapping program  
associated with an application program, which mapping identifies desired characters, functions  
and commands associated with the internal key codes generated by the filter program.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the addition of a keyboard driver and filter program is replaced  
35 by the steps of adding a keyboard driver program and a filter program wherein the keyboard

driver program intercepts incoming scan codes before they are processed by the operating system and transmits them, without first passing through the operating system, to the filter program, which attaches internal key codes to scan codes recognized by the operating system, converts each unrecognized scan code to a unique combination of recognized scan codes and attaches internal key codes corresponding to said unique combination, then transmitting the recognized scan codes and associated internal key codes and the unique combinations of keyboard scan codes and associated combinations of internal key codes to the operating system for regular processing.